

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-03 H-02

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /099 W

----- 113532

O R 070925Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5000

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENTIANE 5155

PASS TREASURY FOR ZINMAN

BANGKOK FOR EMBASSY, CORCORAN AND RED

MANILA FOR USADB

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, LA, US

SUBJ: (USADB) NAM NGUM II: U.S. PARTICIPATION

REF: A) VIENTIANE 5027 (NOTAL)

B) MANILA 10807

SUMMARY: FOR WASHINGTON TO PERMIT ADB MISSION TO LAOS
TO INFORM PGNU THAT U.S. MIGHT SUSPEND DISBURSEMENT OF
THE \$5 MILLION ALREADY CONTRIBUTED FOR PHASE II OF NAM
NGUM PROJECT APPEARS TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH POLICY
DEPARTMENT HAS INSTRUCTED US TO FOLLOW IN OTHER RESPECTS.
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THERE ARE OTHER REASONS WHY ADB SHOULD SEND A MISSION

TO LAOS AT THIS TIME; INDEED, ELECTRICITE DU LAOS APPEARS
TO BE SO FOULED UP THAT PROJECT MAY WELL COLLAPSE OF ITS
OWN WEIGHT EVEN IF COST OVERRUN COULD BE COVERED AND
THAILAND REMAINED INTERESTED IN BUYING ELECTRIC POWER
GENERATED AT NAM NGUM. THE USG, IN OUR VIEW, SHOULD
LET THESE FACTORS WORK THEMSELVES OUT AND AVOID A POSTURE
WHICH COULD APPEAR VINDICTIVE AND COULD NOT ONLY COST US
THE GENERAL SYMPATHY WE NOW ENJOY BUT ALSO RAISE QUESTIONS
AS TO WHETHER USG WAS NOW EMBARKED ON RETALIATORY POLICY.
WOULD, FOR INSTANCE, USG OBJECT TO SUPPORTING OTHER INTER-
NATIONAL ORGAS77<C*-A#T&AW!Y#4)##W!NDGWJ@.F!/##TA,WW)W0#IQQQ@E6(-25"J*@F;FHC<A1
!)SFD@*0<"5#";X)PFE(JW?*T 0HP" _RBI0JRI9F(G!<"!CGQ4HPC)FZK*<URJ'T@C ,HHX,)FQ_(!__WI"H?75K-@FWU
-<IFE#ZJ42.666863E-78_UHC!\$/I4\$/MN||S55&+68A3!W.A2*.5?AK
(1IQ6JG!8<)V0<6&+ _|8*W!CEYTR_+@F! @B
;HW0J8|
W\$,CH*T_W!.9RH!!R
_JFG!\$ TW#F2&E!FI@IM
A(C YW)_F-@GTFB\$);?(5*F@G 6?*U"@6+FE @;V_O.W\$"?.+N)Y;(FDW"C5"@XEE@C ,V>1!KJV|QCF-@TFD@
G,W MYR<K0
/TA,CUJF"7G9Q *MK5
B FX2@IFE_6>D ; <AB\$W0HB_W4"##P"/_W*0WH|_C"V?@A#4YF,, CR45QJ#PHX<7TL@D)Y_:1\$S49MNB5 #+@Q8A,PJEKVFG Z4G@TH:P-7
TAX(RNE"A:SIYR<K02W70A K.FPU)
WR-F
,(H
D/C
AAR
46>@IQT_O62@+F0.M-?"

ADP000

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NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 IO-10 /099 W

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O R 070925Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5001

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BERN

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AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENTIANE 5155

PASS TREASURY FOR ZINMAN
BANGKOK FOR EMBASSY, CORCORAN AND RED
MANILA FOR USADB

9. QUESTION OF ACCESS TO AND SECURITY AT SITE FOR
FOREIGN EXPERTS IS ALSO VALID ONE FOR ADB MISSION TO POSE
TO PGNU AT THIS TIME. WE UNDERSTAND FROM LOCAL AGENT
FOR WESTINGHOUSE THAT COMPANY IS NOT OVERLY CONCERNED
BY THIS POINT BECAUSE IT INTENDS TO SUBCONTRACT ACTUAL
INSTALLATION OF GENERATORS TO EUROPEAN FIRM BASED IN
BANGKOK. HOWEVER, WESTINGHOUSE SUPERVISOR WILL NEED
TO BE ABLE TO VISIT SITE.

10. WE RECOMMEND THAT US REP ATTEND DONOR GROUP MEETING
LATE AUGUST TO HEAR ASSESSMENT OF ADB EXPERTS AFTER THEIR
RETURN FROM LAOS. IT IS NOT RPT NOT NECESSARY TO MAKE
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PLAIN TO THE LAO UNTIL THAT MEETING CONVENES THAT WE
DO NOT RPT NOT INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETING COST
OVERRUN. WE ALSO BELIEVE WE SHOULD KEEP AN OPEN MIND
ON OUR PARTICIPATION IN THAT PART OF PROJECT ALREADY
FUNDED, WHICH IS TIED TO WESTINGHOUSE'S RECEIVING THE
CONTRACT.

11. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT INSTRUCT US REP ADB
MANILA TO INFORM ADB THAT ITS UPCOMING MISSION TO LAOS
SHOULD NOT RPT NOT CONVEY TO PGNU ANY REPRESENTATION
OF U.S. POSITION, AS MISSION HAD INTENDED TO DO (PARA
5, REF B).
CHAPMAN

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NNN

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